ELY news

Thursday, September 28, 2017
ely-news.co.uk

50p

I'll never stop, says Corrie's mum

page 4-5

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Pull-out property guide inside

Check out Property in Thursday's CAMBRIDGE

City's high street defies downturn

Ely is one of the best performers in the country, according to industry experts

■ Full report – page 3

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Let's all paws to pray

– page 8

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FORCE

Increase in complaints against Cambs police

TARA COX
@TaraCoxCN

THE number of allegations against Cambridgeshire police has risen by more than 150 in a single year – and the overall number of complaints is also on the increase.

The figures have been revealed in the latest Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) report, which presents figures on complaints and allegations recorded against the police in England and Wales during 2016/17.

These complaints, made by members of the public, relate to the conduct of people serving with the police, or to the direction and control of a police force. There can be a number of allegations within any single complaint.

The report says the force had 367 complaints in 2015/2016, with 90 per cent recorded by officers within 10 working days. This rose to 383 complaints in 2016/2017, with 91 per cent recorded by officers within 10 working days.

The number of allegations dealt with by police rose considerably, from 751 in 2015/2016 to 909 in 2016/2017.

Of the allegations recorded in 2016/2017, 197 were dealt with by an investigation, 42 were withdrawn, 20 were dealt with 'by disapplication', four were discontinued and 536 were dealt with by local resolution.

In response to the report, Detective Superintendent Amanda Bell, head of the Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Professional Standards Department (PSD), said: "It is always disappointing when somebody is unhappy with the service they have received or how they feel they have been treated by a police officer or a member of staff.

It is encouraging to know that members of the public feel confident in reporting concerns to us
Det Supt Amanda Bell

"We take complaints very seriously and will always listen to and take heed of those who come forward to report any dissatisfaction or wrongdoing.

"While there has been an increase in the number of complaints received by Cambridgeshire police, it is encouraging to know that members of the public feel confident in reporting concerns to us. We want the public and our own employees to feel confident about raising concerns about the conduct of our officers and staff.

"We will always ensure that complaints are considered in line with the current complaint system and comply with the guidance from the Independent Police Complaints Commission to ensure our recording regime is open and transparent.

"Where necessary and appropriate, officers and staff will be held to account. It is also very important that both individuals and the force learn from any mistakes.

"Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) are content with our recording of public complaints and have praised the integrity with which this is conducted. They were also pleased and content with the proportion of complaints that we seek to deal with by means of local resolution."

Overall, police forces across the country recorded a total of 34,103 complaint cases in 2016/17 – a number similar to 2015/16. In 2016/17, the number of allegations nationwide recorded fell by one per cent – with a total of 63,752 allegations recorded.

Statistical bulletins from the IPCC are released four times a year for every police force.

COMMUNITY

Sad farewell as Ely News bows out

THIS is the final printed edition of the *Ely News*.

As announced a month ago we are ceasing to print the paper, but coverage of Ely will continue in the daily *Cambridge News* and on our website *www.cambridge-news.co.uk*.

Ely readers can also keep up-to-date by liking our Ely News Facebook page, which will continue to signpost local news and events.

Commercially we will still be serving our advertisers' needs online and with niche products. Advertisers can call (01223) 434212 if they wish to discuss their requirements.

Editor-in-chief David Bartlett, pictured, said: "It is always a sad occasion to be closing a title, but the truth is due to the changing nature of the free newspaper advertising environment, it was no longer sustainable.

"Thank you to everyone who read the *Ely News*, and to our advertisers who made it possible for us to produce the title."

RETAIL

City's high street defies the post-Brexit decline

ANNA **SAVVA**
@AnnaSavvaCN

ELY has defied the post-Brexit slump to have one of the best performing high streets in the UK, say industry experts.

Just 1.4 per cent of its shops were empty in the first half of 2017, according to the Local Data Company (LDC), making it one of the best performers in Britain. The vacancy rate was the same as in the first half of 2016.

It comes as the number of new shops opening across the UK dropped by 84 per cent in April to June 2017, compared to the same quarter in 2016, according to a report from LDC.

Part of Ely's success has been put down to its wealth of independent shops. Independent businesses have generated a massive 89 per cent of the net growth in shop numbers since the first half of 2013.

While many high streets across the UK are filled with empty stores, with one in four unoccupied, Ely is a haven for independent businesses.

Local business development manager Naomi Sherwood, 40, said: "It's great because there are so many independent and quirky shops in Ely.

"There's a lot of crafty people and a good variety of things."

Yet, she admitted there was a lack of big high street names in the city.

She added: "We'd love some big high street stores. . . it would be nice to have a little M&S."

Among the independent shops that make Ely unique is Topping & Company, a book shop business which hosts high-profile author talks throughout the year, including the forthcoming Ely Literary Festival.

A Toppings spokesman put the business' success down to the strength of what it offers customers.

He said: "With our extensive stock of over 50,000 books and a great programme of events, we are a haven for booklovers all over the region – and the complimentary tea and coffee certainly helps create the perfect atmosphere. With our 15th anniversary coming up, we are delighted to be part of the Ely experience."

Andy Pearson, director of Draymans Son micropub, said the key to Ely's success starts with looking after people.

He said: "Good customer service, knowing that looking after customers is what is required to keep people coming."

"We have a unique and unusual approach to what we provide.

"Ely has numerous independent businesses which all work hard to support each other and provide good service.

"We have good tourist attractions with the cathedral and river along with many other attractions, and I am proud to be part of my home town and promote it to tourists."

'LOOK AFTER PEOPLE': Drymans Son director Andy Pearson

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
Email us at letters@cambridge-news.co.uk or visit cambridge-news.co.uk

EDUCATION

All-age tax for graduates proposed

STUDENTS who attended university free should start paying towards the cost of their degree, according to a research paper.

The new study calls for the introduction of a new "all-age graduate tax" paid by everyone who has a degree, regardless of when they studied or how much it cost them. The proposal would help to cut what today's students pay to go to university and increase funds raised for the public purse, according to the authors.

The study comes at a time when student tuition fees, which now stand at up to £9,250 a year, are firmly back in the spotlight, with concerns about issues such as value for money and spiralling pay for university bosses.

Researchers at the Centre for Research on Learning and Life Chances at the UCL Institute of Education set out proposals for a graduate tax, which they suggest is a mid-point between the current fees and loans system and a Labour Party General Election pledge to scrap tuition fees.

Under the current system, students can get government-backed loans to cover their tuition and living costs, which they begin paying back once they are earning more than £21,000 a year.

FIRE

Arsonists drive car into haystack

A CAR was driven into 400 tonnes of hay before being set alight near Mepal on Monday.

Police and fire crews attended the scene of the arson attack in which thousand of pounds worth of hay went up in smoke.

Police are now warning people to be vigilant against repeat attacks.

PCSO Ian Hawkins said: "It appears to have been a deliberate ignition following a vehicle being driven into the stack and set alight.

"Straw stack fires can be very dangerous for nearby buildings. The potential for further ignitions in the nearby vicinity is often very high given how easily the embers can be carried on the wind, not to mention the value of the stacks which can run into the thousands of pounds.

"Please ensure that you are remaining vigilant around any stacks that may be in your area and let us know if you see any suspicious people or vehicles."

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and 18 November
8.30 - 11.00am

No appointment necessary

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CORRIE MCKEAGUE

Hundreds follow in Corrie's

TAKING COMFORT: Nicola Urquhart says she was so glad that the family marked the anniversary of Corrie's disappearance with a walk around the town where he went missing
Pictures: David Johnson

TOM **PILGRIM**
@TomPilgrimCN

THE mother of Corrie McKeague retraced the last-known steps of her son one year on from the night he went missing.

The 23-year-old airman disappeared on September 24 last year after a night out with friends in Bury St Edmunds.

Supported by Corrie's brothers, Makeyan and Darroch, mum Nicola Urquhart walked her son's final route through the town on Sunday and recounted the details of his final movements.

Dozens of friends and supporters joined her on the emotional journey as she made a plea for people with any new information to come forward.

Nicola said that the idea for the walkabout was agreed upon three weeks ago when the family decided to mark the anniversary of Corrie's disappearance with a "proactive" event.

"I hope it will bring information out," she said. "That's been the whole purpose of this."

"To hear people saying 'I didn't realise that', to know that people's attention is focused on the facts of that night – hopefully that will bring forward information."

For over an hour Nicola walked

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Lynn Road
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Belinda 07971 077941

SOHAM
Comrades Club
Market Street
9.30am, 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Sarah 07877 452954

BURWELL
Gardiner Memorial Hall
High Street
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Diane 07813 146804

TUESDAY

LITTLEPORT
Leisure Centre
Camel Road
9.30am, 11.30am,
6pm & 7.30pm
Sharon 07760 192638

WATERBEACH
Tillage Hall
Cambridge Road
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Jo 07790 660709

NEWMARKET
Studlands Park Sport &
Social Club
9.30am
Sarah 07786 450433

ELY
Larkfields Resource Centre
High Barns
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Karen 01353 661771

NEWMARKET
Ditton Lodge First School
St Johns Avenue
5.45pm & 7.45pm
Sarah 07786 450433

WEDNESDAY

ELY
Beet Sport & Social Club
9.30am
Karen 01353 661771

LITTLEPORT
Millfield Primary School
Grange Lane
7.30pm
Jo 07527 646062

NEWMARKET
The Rutland Arms Hotel
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Michelle 07880 701958

SOHAM
Weatherall Primary School
Pratt Street
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Amanda 07563 544708

HADDENHAM
Social Club
9.30am
Clare 07876 343171

THURSDAY

LITTLE DOWNHAM
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Julie 07709 866775

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Michelle 07880 701958

SWAFFHAM PRIOR
Village Hall
5.30pm & 7pm
Sharon 07760 192638

STRETHAM
Primary School
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Jo 07527 646062

SATURDAY

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Karen 01353 661771

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last-known steps

Emotional journey for missing airman's family

through town, explained Corrie's activities the night he went missing and answered questions from members of the public.

Many supporters shared words of encouragement and embraced Corrie's mother, while others brought gifts for the family.

Paul and Julie Stammers, whose son is an ex-serviceman, travelled up from their home in Kent to show their support for Corrie's family.

"We wanted to go and have a look to see the route that he was on and show support to Nicola and the boys," said Paul.

"I could just see my son being in the same position. Somebody just doesn't disappear off the planet. There's got to be answers somewhere."

Mother-of-two Rebecca Watts, of Burwell, also followed Nicola through the streets of Bury St Edmunds.

"I've got two boys so it really resonates with me," she said. "Someone knows where he is. It's really a case of reminding people that he's missing."

The crowd of supporters were taken from the Flex nightclub on St Andrews Street South, where Corrie was separated from his friends, and past Pizza Mamma Mia in St Andrews Street North where he bought takeaway food.

The airman was then caught on CCTV walking on to Brentgovel Street near The Grapes pub, eating his food, before he took a nap for about two hours in the doorway of Hughes Electrical Store nearby.

Corrie walked past the junction of St Johns Street to a refuse collection area behind Greggs, known as the horseshoe area.

Corrie's brother Makeyan, said he was "extremely grateful" to all the people who had shown support to his family over the past year.

"These people – we need them," he said. "Their support keeps things moving. The main goal is to try and get people to think about Corrie and that night to try and see if someone remembers something.

Makeyan said it was a "difficult" day, but he was trying to "stay positive."

Alongside the walkabout, police officers leading the investigation into Corrie's disappearance set up a 'police pod' in town for people to view CCTV footage of the airman's final steps.

Following her tour of Corrie's last route Nicola said she was feeling "much better" than she had expected.

"This morning I felt sick about having to walk around this route on this day. I wasn't looking forward to it, but I'm so glad we've done it.

"We've been thinking about this for months, of what to do. Nothing felt right. I didn't want to simply remember Corrie today. We wanted to do something positive. It's about doing something proactive."

Since Corrie's disappearance, girlfriend April Oliver has given birth to his daughter Ellie-Louise.

Nicola said her granddaughter's arrival had given the family "a future to look forward to".

"She's part of Corrie," she explained. "We can see Corrie in her. It's given us a future that still includes Corrie.

"Something has happened to Corrie, we just need to find out what happened. We're still desperately looking for information. It's about making people know the facts.

"He's somewhere and I can't see how we're not going to get that final link at some point.

"I won't stop trying until we do."

Cathedral Medical Centre

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Letters

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Please enclose your full address and daytime telephone number. Keep your letter to no more than 250 words. Ely News reserves the right to edit material. Letters should arrive by noon on the Tuesday before publication

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At the same time, we are constantly looking to improve our titles and are always happy to hear from you with suggestions and comments. If you have any feedback for us please contact the relevant person or people listed.

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Thanks to district voters

I WOULD like to thank everyone who voted in the Ely South by-election on September 7 and for electing me to serve on East Cambridgeshire District Council.

I would also like to thank my opponents Rebecca Denness and Sarah Bellow and their teams for the huge effort they put into fighting this election.

During the course of the campaign, I heard of many issues that concern people.

Some of these are district council issues and some are the responsibility of other councils or agencies.

No doubt, there are other matters that concern residents and please do feel free to contact me if I can be of help, regardless of how you voted.

I am determined to be a challenging voice both inside and outside the council chamber.

Cllr Christine Whelan
Ely South Ward Liberal Democrats

The future of Uber drivers

TRANSPORT for London has banned Uber potentially putting 40,000 drivers out of work and denying 3.5 million Londoners the freedom to use them.

Cambridge City Council says: "Uber currently holds a one year private hire operator licence with the council until December. The council is responsible for licensing all Hackney carriage, private hire, taxi proprietors and operators in Cambridge."

It said: "We will look closely at the detail of TfL's decision and the likely appeal Uber has indicated it will lodge against that decision before considering Uber's operator licence in Cambridge, and whether that licence should be renewed or not."

I spent five years as a self-employed Cambridge private hire car owner driver with no right to sick pay, holiday pay or a guarantee of work, I had to pay a 25 per cent fee for jobs from the Taxi Office.

Drivers worked a 72-hour week and I suspect the same is true today.

Drivers had to pay for a medical, police check, annual licence, council vehicle test, car costs, maintenance and public liability insurance before having any income.

The GMB union wants to represent private hire drivers:"We're standing up for members who are being denied basic workers' rights by taking the fight to Uber. GMB also has a Labour Candidates Programme."

The only way taxi drivers will have their incomes guaranteed is to reduce the number of licences issued, restrict the availability of taxis for the public and reduce the total number of jobs for drivers!

Is this a party political decision to repay a union paymaster?

Robert Boorman
Stretten Avenue
Cambridge

PEACEFUL: Local photographer Shaun Brown took this picture of a Grumman Wildcat landing at Duxford airfield DURING THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN AIR SHOW

Send your pictures in JPEG format marked 'Your View' to *picturedesk@cambridge-news.co.uk*. Please add your name, address and daytime telephone number, where you took the photo and, if possible, a picture of yourself! We reserve the right to reuse pictures at our discretion.

Nurses really are struggling

I WAS appalled by the comments made by Bernard Stewart-Deane ("Give us facts on nurses pay", *Letters*).

He implied that the Royal College of Nurses were being "economical with the truth" on their claim that some nurses are having to take second jobs and rely on Food Banks to get by,because the RCN are in his opinion a

"Trade Union". D'oh!

The truth is, like it or not, with the pay freeze and pay cap since 2010, the average health worker has had a real terms pay cut of £2000.

That is one of the reasons the NHS is short of 40,000 nurses.

The Institute of Fiscal Studies – another "Trade Union"? –, has warned that unless the Government eases the restraint in pay, public services will struggle to recruit and retain staff.

Just because some go into nursing because they care does not mean they should be taken advantage of.

As Mike Adams of the RCN has said, "many nurses work over their hours without pay to ensure patients are well cared for".

BernardStewart-Deane said we cannot afford to lift the cap on public sector pay, but the Tories have managed to find the money to fund tax cuts for the rich.

"What a man had rather were true he more readily believes" Francis Bacon 1620, sums up Bernard Stewart-Deane's attitude to a tee.

John Doland
Hanover Close
Bar Hill

Damage to pavements

A READER'S letter recently printed in your newspaper highlighted the damage caused to pavements in Haverhill and specifically on Downs Crescent.

If you were to walk on Downs Crescent any day of the week and, especially in the evening, you will see many cars, trucks and vans parked half on the road and half on the pavement.

It is the residents of Downs Crescent that need to take a look in the mirror. They should use their garages and driveways rather than dumping their vehicles on the pavement.

This selfish and irresponsible behaviour is not only a danger to the pedestrians, especially those with special needs but to put it bluntly, the residents are cutting off their own nose to spite their face.

Claiming that the council is not doing enough to repair the damage done again is just another example of a failure to take responsibility for protecting what could easily be a very nice part of Haverhill to live in.

Name and address supplied

Releasing wild animals

WE found a beautiful young barn owl which appeared to be weak and died during the night, we think, of starvation.

This bird broke my heart. Suffolk is a cruel area to release any animal/bird. I despair of the human race and of those who say that they are trying to help wildlife.

P Ward
By email

Corrections & complaints

If we have published anything that is factually inaccurate, please contact: The Editor, Ely News, Winship Road, Milton, Cambridge, CB24 6BQ and, once verified, we will correct it as soon as possible.

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EMERGENCY

Safety fear after lorry hits shop

TOMMY **LUMBY**
@TommyLumbyCN

PART of a Polish delicatessen in Soham was at risk of collapsing after a lorry smashed into it, according to police.

The crash happened at about 11.15am last Thursday in the town's Churchgate Street.

A large truck struck the side of the shop on the corner of the street after turning from nearby White Hart Lane.

Police cordoned off the road and surrounding area while officers ushered people away from the scene.

A structural engineer was called out after debris was left strewn across the street, with a large chunk of the shop's frontage missing.

Men in hard hats were seen climbing a ladder to inspect the damage to the building.

A spokesman for Cambridgeshire Constabulary said: "A lorry crashed into a house in Churchgate Street, Soham, at about 11.15am.

"No one was injured but part of the building is at risk of collapse so a structural engineer was needed."

The police spokesman later confirmed that no arrests had been made following the crash.

A neighbour living nearby claimed it was the third time such a crash had happened in just a fortnight. The neighbour, who did not want to be named, told the *News*: "The sat nav sends them down here and they don't really read the signs.

"God knows why there's so many lorries when we have the bypass. I appreciate they have to make deliveries."

The owners of the shop declined to comment.

TRAIL OF DAMAGE: Bricks are strewn across the road outside the Soham shop after a lorry clipped the side of the building
Pictures: David Johnson

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In Memoriam

PTE LEE DEAN CREAK

In loving memory of our hero
07.06.1987 - 04.10.2015

We little knew that morning that God was going to call your name, in life we loved you dearly, in death we do the same.

It broke our hearts to lose you, you did not go alone, for part of us went with you the day God called you home.

You left us beautiful memories, your love is still our guide and although we cannot see you, you are always at our side.

Our family chain is broken and nothing seems the same but as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again.

Love always
Mum, Roger, Nanna, Grandad, Ryan, Naomi, Ellie, Davina, Kieran, Kayden, Aiden and Lois

x x x x x x

Find the right words
Another day, another year,
But precious memories keep you near.
Looking back with tenderness along the path you trod;
I bless the years I spent with you, and leave the rest to God.
God saw that you were tired, he knew you needed rest,
His garden must be beautiful, He only takes the best.
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CATHEDRAL

TAKING THE LEAD: Canon Vicky Johnson with her dog Percy at the pet service in Ely Cathedral

God's creatures great and small

ANNA **SAVVA**
@AnnaSavvaCN

ELY Cathedral was transformed into Noah's Ark as hundreds of "creatures great and small" were welcomed to the animal service.

The yearly 'blessing' on Sunday has been running since 1989 in aid of local and national animal charities.

It was an opportunity for pet and working animal owners to give thanks to God for the animal kingdom, with dogs, ferrets, guinea pigs and donkeys making an appearance.

The short service and blessing was led by Canon Vicky Johnson with the help of Percy, her black labradoodle, with all funds raised benefiting local animal charities including Wood Green, The Donkey Sanctuary, Guide Dogs and K9.

This year the church's nativity donkey Daisy, was 'interviewed' by Canon Vicky Johnson, to highlight the important work done by the Donkey Sanctuary to improve animal welfare worldwide.

Speaking to the *News* Canon Johnson, who has been at Ely Cathedral for two years, was asked about her views on the liberal protestant view of the animal kingdom and why the service is so important.

She said: "The most amazing thing about this service is the number of people who come to worship with their pets, who might not normally come through the great west doors. Everyone is welcome as the church cares and respects all God's creatures.

"It also says something profound about the Christian faith to those who are perhaps unfamiliar with church.

"There are some who think such services are just a 'gimmick', but at Ely the annual Animal Service is a vital part of our mission and outreach strategy and a means of reaching out to the local community."

As to whether animals have souls, she said: "We would say that all creatures are a part of God's creation. We believe in the wholeness of God's creation and that one day there will be a new creation where this world is subsumed into God's love.

"I think to mine down into the specifics of souls confuses the big issue that we celebrate 'the whole of creation' as it is, connected.

"That is what we are doing in the animal service, we are celebrating all things that God has made.

"We pray that all the time that we commend the souls of the departed to God's love. In the animal service we value creation now and when there is the 'new creation' we believe we will be created in eternal life.

When asked, if she thought animals can go to heaven if they are 'bad', she said: "I don't think broadly that [heaven and hell] is how we would talk about things anymore. We believe in a loving God.

"Animals are created as innocents. I don't think an animal goes out intending to do harm.

"If something happens, an animal is just attempting to survive. I don't think they have a kind of vengeance.

"I think maybe that is the difference between animals and humans, because humans have much more of a cognitive awareness of what they might be doing."

When asked why is it important to worship animals, she said: "It's good to ask questions. Any event celebrating animals and creation opens up much bigger questions about what it means to be a human being.

"If you are interested in the environment and the natural world there is research to say animals are actually much more sentient than we ever thought they were, and that's the side we are celebrating in the pet service.

"We are called to care and nurture and coexist with creatures in the world."

Ely Cathedral also holds services every day at 7.30am and 5.30pm.

Check out CityLIFE in Thursday's CAMBRIDGE news

POLICE

Severed head man possibly killed by train

RAYMOND **BROWN**
@RaymondBrownCN

THE mystery of a man's severed head found in a skip in Cambridgeshire continues to baffle police – but he may have been killed by a train.

The head was found in a quarry in Mepal, near Ely, on May 16 last year and the trail of evidence led police to search a site in Mill Road in Sharnbrook, Bedfordshire, around 50 miles away from where workers made the grisly discovery.

Officers believe the head could have been lodged in a nearby bridge in Bedfordshire for more than 10 years before coming loose when the structure was cleaned.

Detectives have been working with specialists from the Natural History Museum and an odontologist – a medical professional trained in the identification of unknown human remains – to determine who the man was and when he died.

Specialists believe the man was aged between 30 and 50 at the time of his death.

But it could have been as long ago as the 1960s, although experts believe it is more likely to have occurred about 10 years ago.

Police believe the death may have been the result of an accident in which the man was hit by a train.

A post-mortem examination came back inconclusive, and the cause of death remains unknown.

A Cambridgeshire police spokeswoman confirmed on Tuesday that there was no major breakthrough in the investigation and it remains ongoing.

Officers believe the head may have been lodged somewhere along the structure of the bridge in Sharnbrook, Bedfordshire and, after it was cleaned, was dislodged and found its way into the skip, eventually being deposited at the quarry in Mepal.

Investigations have not shown any DNA matches.

Police continue to appeal for information.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Major Crime Unit on 101 or Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111, or via their online reporting system at *crimestoppers-uk.org*.

DEPOSIT: Mepal Quarry, near Ely

MEPAL QUARRY: Severed head was found in May last year – with no major breakthrough in the ongoing investigation

Officers believe the head could have been lodged in a nearby bridge in Bedfordshire before coming loose when the structure was cleaned

Police

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female seeking

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ATTRACTIVE lady, 45yrs, loves animals, music, socialising. If you have similar interests then call or text me. Lets meet up and spend time together. Looks unimportant, must have GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428811**

AISHA, petite Asian lady, just 23yrs, living at home but hoping to meet a sophisticated, well travelled man to teach me the ways of the world. Pls be discreet as my parents are very strict. **Text only. Box: 4003844**

TAKE a chance on me. Beryl, honest black lady. Seeking a gent 50-75 ish. who will treat me with respect. I will be respectful to you, mutual fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428809**

MERRY widow, 64yrs, lonely and kind. Hoping to meet a kind gent, please call, you won't be sorry, I'm good company and will care for you. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428805**

TABITHA, attractive well groomed lady, 32yrs, own house, good job, hoping for some naught text chat with older gent. **Text Only. Box: 4028177**

STEPHANIE, super sexy black mamma, 55yrs young with curves in all the right places. Call me and you wont be sorry, we can have the time of our lives. **Text Only. Box: 4060220**

MICHELLE, 44yrs, attractive lady, great company, hoping to meet mature gent 50+ for loving relationship. ACA/Text answered. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428803**

CANDIDA, 52yrs, married lady, very well educated with good looks and dress sense. Unappreciated by older husband and hoping for some fun with discreet chap. **Text Only. Box: 4010802**

SUE, attractive lady, genuine with many interests. I'm attractive with feminine curves. If you are a caring loving man under 70yrs call me for good times. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428801**

CHLOE, very attractive girl, 32yrs, long hair and lovely teeth, I like to take care of myself. I want a man who will pamper me. In return you wont be disappointed as I am super sexy. **Text Only. Box: 4070336**

IF you want to meet a mature busty blonde lady then look no further. Call me, I'm interested in meeting a man who wants a physical relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428799**

SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. **Tel: 0906 515 3016 Box: 413399**

PIPPA, recently divorced lady, 46yrs, hoping to get back into dating and have some fun with a guy any age. Must be a laugh and willing to have a go at most things. **Text Only. Box: 4101590**

SUSAN, articulate interesting lady, 60yrs, loves countryside and music. Hoping to meet a genuine man of any age. All calls and texts answered. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428797**

KATIE 35yrs, slender well educated brunette seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent 40+ Must be discreet, married or single. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3000 Box 419673**

HEATHER, 54yrs, slim brunette with petite figure, loves keep fit. Seeks chap for nights out, fun times, must be honest and kind. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428491**

JANE, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. **Tel: No: 0906 515 3000 Box: 409715**

VICTORIA, 46yrs, bubbly outgoing nurse, petite pretty brunette. WLTM N/S man, any age, must have GSOH and be kind. ACA. Or text. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428489**

GENUINE lady 50yrs, independent, seeks genuine man, call to hear more about me pls. ACA/text answered. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428487**

EMILY, mature well educated lady, blonde and smart and broadminded seeks gent any age for no strings fun. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3020 Box 421375**

ANNETTA, 40yrs old seeks caring older gent 55+, you must be nice and enjoy my company. ACA/Text answered. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428483**

TAMIKA, mature black beauty, hourglass figure and open minded. Pls call if you are discreet, broad minded and nice. I can travel and accommodate. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3004 Box 422365**

TERESA, friendly lady with GSOH, curvy build and attractive looks, 50 something, seeking romantic male 45-55. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428383**

SAMANTHA, 35yrs, attractive brunette with own business, seeks adventurous gent for casual relationship. **Tel: 0906 515 3032 Box 425979**

ARE you a gent with GSOH 60-70 and looking for some fun then call me, Leah, I'm 57yrs, slim, attractive and looking for fun. ACA. Or text me. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428381**

JOY, mid 50s independent lady, brunette, loves dining out, seeking gent of any age. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428373**

HARRIETT 42yrs, blue eyed brunette with long lets and decent curves! Looking for a cheeky adventurous man for fun only. I live alone so can accommodate and can travel. Discretion assured. ACA. Give me a try. **Tel: 0906 515 3028 Box 426205**

JANE, 52yrs genuine blue eyed blonde lady WLTM romantic gent for potential relationship. ACA/Text answered so please reply. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428379**

CARMEL, open minded naughty lady seeks a broad minded strict man to unleash her wilder side. Age/looks unimportant but no time wasters please. **Tel: 0906 515 3040 Box 426851**

LINDA, 48yrs, young looking blonde lady, slim and attractive. Hoping to meet new men friends, call and let's see what happens. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428377**

CAROLINE, 42yrs, well educated, sophisticated "some call me posh" married lady, looking for no strings midweek liaisons. **Tel: 0906 515 3024 Box 427533**

MARGARET, attractive blonde widow, living alone and hoping to find a nice gentleman soulmate. I have lots to offer so please call or text me. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428375**

male seeking

STEVE is looking for a fun loving loyal lady 52+. Is that you? **Text only replies. Mailbox: 6042709**

MALE, 49, looking for love with a woman of any age, someone who is kind. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428299**

TALL, slim, caring, kind, 48-year-old guy, seeks Asian female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 426879**

MALE, 60s, looking for an open-minded mature lady for fun times. **Pls text replies. Mailbox: 6028699**

OPEN minded, male, early 70s, seeks similar lady for friendship, days out, specials times and maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 426669**

CARING loving guy looking for a lady to enjoy good times with. **Text only. Mailbox: 5783640**

HI ladies, I am Roy, 43, WLTM special person for LTR and cuddles etc. Likes music, TV and reading, get in touch please. **Text only. Mailbox: 5803037**

WIDOWER 49, 5ft 9ins, blonde/grey, medium build, looking for fun times with unhappy female, n/s/, any age/status, discretion assured. **Text only. Mailbox: 5784314**

GOOD looking athletic male, 30s, with brown hair/blue eyes seeks woman for fun times. **Text only. Mailbox: 5792232**

BILL, 67yrs, 5ft 11ins, very fit and active, looking for a slim petite lady, reasonably attractive, 40-60, for friendship, probably leading to a relationship and fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 426353**

DAVID, 70s, n/s, medium height/build, young at heart, kind and caring, seeks lady with time to share life's pleasures. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 425033**

MALE looking for a lady 40-60 yrs old who enjoys meals out and in, and snuggle up indoors with a bottle of wine. **Text only. Mailbox: 5444500**

TERRY, 51, very kind male, enjoys cinema, eating out, live concerts, travel, WLTM loving lady, 38-55, for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 423945**

KIND male, 50s, enjoys cinema, eating out, live concerts, travel, WLTM loving lady, 38-54, n/s, to share interests and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 425795**

MALE 62 looking for a lady 45-55 for relationship must be kind, considerate and affectionate. I enjoy most things in life. **Text only. Mailbox: 5780167**

MALE 60's kind and caring, GSOH, n/s, seeks similar female for lots of love laughter and happy times and hopefully LTR. **Text only. Mailbox: 4631948**

ANTHONY, still firing on all cylinders, non-drinker/smoker, but looking for that wild woman! Maybe that is you? **Text only. Mailbox: 5766252**

MALE 63, 5'10, med build, easy going, looking for female, 18-65, for adult and fun times. **Text only. Mailbox: 5561333**

MALE 62, 5' 11, med build, out going would like to meet female to go walking. Must like dogs. **Text only replies. Mailbox: 5561333**

MALE, 72, smart, fit, enjoys life, country walks and the coast, pub lunches, fun to be with, seeks similar female, Cambridge/Suffolk/Norfolk areas preferred. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 422995**

BLACK male, Caribbean descent, 6ft2, looking for female, any nationality, for relationship and lovely fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 426485**

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gay seeking

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MALE 66 seeking cd or bi male for friendship and fun. Can accommodate overnight. **Text only replies. Mailbox: 5956729**

BI gay man, 72, wants virile man, any age. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428451**

MALE 69, Slim build, WLTM CD bi male, age/looks unimportant. Wishes to be taught. **Text only replies. Mailbox: 6028068**

71 years old bi, seeks similar for fun times. **Text only replies. Mailbox: 4566382**

WHITE male 65, looking for a female, married or single of any nationality for some genuine discreet adult fun. Any age. **Text only. Mailbox: 5669789**

BI guy 57 looking for bi guy or cd TV any age for friendship and fun. **Text only. Mailbox: 5614948**

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ATTRACTIVE widow, loves life, 60s music, walking and fun. Hoping to meet a similar minded gent 60-80 for life's adventures. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428371**

NICOLA, 37yrs mixed race beauty, just moved to the area from London so a bit lonely. Looks unimportant must have GSOH and be kind. ACA/text answered **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428369**

WANTED, submissive gent by attractive lady 51yrs, please call if you want to know more. Ata **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428367**

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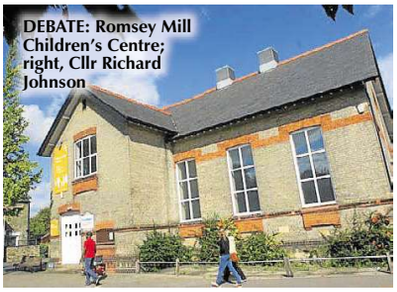
COMMUNITY

‘Lack of evidence to back children’s centres plans’

TARA **COX**
@TaraCoxCN



DEBATE: Romsey Mill Children’s Centre; right, Cllr Richard Johnson

THERE is a ‘lack of clear evidence’ to support proposals to scrap 19 dedicated children’s centres across Cambridgeshire in a bid to save £1 million, according to Cambridge City Council.

The city council has formally responded to a public consultation on Cambridgeshire County Council’s proposed review of children’s centre services, which includes the potential closure of four centres in Cambridge.

A public consultation has been undertaken regarding plans to “redesign” children’s services in a bid to help reach more families across the county.

Currently there are 40 designated children’s centres across the county delivered by the county council, schools and voluntary organisations.

Cllr Richard Johnson, the city’s executive councillor for communities, has sent a letter to the county after listening to the views of local people, which outlines the city council’s formal response to proposals. The letter stresses the council’s views that:

- Children’s centres play an important role in ensuring families and children in Cambridge can thrive and have the best start
- There is a lack of clear evidence in the consultation paper to support the rationale for the proposals
- The impact of the proposals on communities, groups and areas of Cambridge, in particular those with high needs, is not clear
- More detail is required on how crucial services would be provided following any proposed changes – changes that may include the closure of children’s centres – before final decisions are made.

Cllr Johnson said: “I acknowledge the financial pressure that Cambridgeshire County Council, like all local authorities, is under due to reductions in central grant funding from Government.

“Nevertheless, it is paramount the needs of families and children are met in the city.

“Given the lack of a clear and robust evidence base to justify the proposals, the public may conclude that the suggested closure of centres, and absence of information as to how services will be provided if those centres close, will ultimately have a negative impact on those families and children who currently use them.

“As a result, more information should be made available to decision makers before a final judgement is made by councillors on these proposals – to either accept, amend or reject them completely.”

A petition launched previously calling for a full council debate on the issue has now gathered more than 3,000 signatures – the number needed to trigger the debate.

In response to the city council’s claims, a Cambridgeshire County Council spokesman said: “Our proposals are about making sure every child thrives in Cambridgeshire. We want people to access services where they live when they need them most and our plans will create a flexible approach, which prioritises services over buildings.

“Our flexible approach will involve a range of services including family and child centres, zones, outreach activities supported by an effective online offer and this will help us meet the challenge of providing adaptable services for a growing county.

“All consultation feedback will be carefully considered and put into a report that will be discussed by the Children and Young People Committee in October.”

Under the proposals:

THERE are 40 designated children’s centres delivered by the county council, schools and voluntary organisations.

The plans to “change the use or re-designate” 19 children’s centre buildings across Cambridgeshire to provide additional early years provision.

Council chiefs instead hope to create a network of 10 ‘Children and Family Centres’ over 15 sites across the five districts – Cambridge City, South Cambs, East Cambs, Huntingdonshire and Fenland.

A council agenda document reads: “We are proposing that some children’s centres would no longer be needed as children’s centres.

“We would look to re-designate these spaces to meet other needs of families in the area including childcare provision, community use and wherever possible ongoing pop-up provision.

Children’s centres in East Cambridgeshire that could be ‘redesignated’ include Sutton and Bottisham.

In Cambridge it includes Romsey Mill, Fawcett, Homerton and Cherry Hinton.

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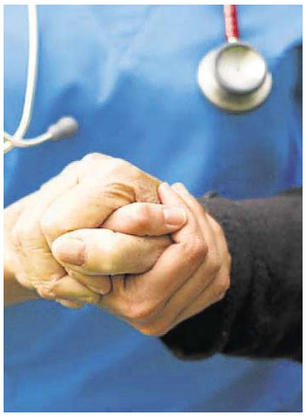
HEALTH

Do eyes and stomach hold key in Alzheimer's battle?



TARA COX
@TaraCoxCN

PIONEERING dementia scientists in Cambridgeshire are to research whether the eyes and the stomach could hold secrets behind finding new treatments to Alzheimer's.

It has been announced £1.75 million has been given to Alzheimer's Research UK to investigate new ways to diagnose, treat and reduce the risk of the condition.

Among a number of projects, the money will be used to look at whether early signs are found in the eyes and if a protein involved in dementia could originate in the gut.

Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of dementia, affecting 500,000 people in the UK.

The Cambridgeshire-based charity has funded more than £16 million of research in Cambridge since it was founded 25 years ago.

The £1.75 million of new funding will help improve understanding of dementia and drive progress towards ways to diagnose, treat and reduce the risk of the condition.

The funding comes after the *News* shared the heartbreaking story of Becky Barletta, a 32-year-old ski instructor who was diagnosed with dementia in the 'youngest case a doctor had ever seen'.

New projects awarded funding include:

- Nearly £800,000 for investigating whether internet counselling and other web-based support could help people make lifestyle changes to reduce their dementia risk;
- £100,000 for a study that will measure the magnetic signature of the brain to identify the early signs of Alzheimer's disease;
- A £419,456 study using brain scans to find the brain changes that underlie visual hallucinations in dementia with Lewy bodies;
- Nearly £50,000 for a project that aims to identify early signs of Alzheimer's through the eye;
- More than £18,000 for sensitive new equipment to measure protein changes involved in different forms of dementia;
- Nearly £30,000 to test the idea that a protein involved in dementia could originate in the gut.

Prof Michael Coleman from Cambridge University secured a grant of nearly £50,000 for research to understand the links between brain injury and dementia.

We aim to identify the earliest changes that take place in the brain following a traumatic brain injury to see if we could stop them triggering subsequent changes that could lead to dementia

Prof Michael Coleman

Prof Coleman, who ran in the Chariots of Fire event in Cambridge this month to raise money for Alzheimer's Research UK, said: "From traffic accidents to collision sports, millions of people around the world experience head injuries every year.

"While these events can result in immediate damage to the brain, evidence suggests they could also have significant effects in the longer-term. Recent research has pointed towards traumatic brain injury as a probable risk factor for dementia in later life.

"While studies have shed light on higher rates of dementia in people who sustain these injuries, we don't fully understand how these events set dementia-causing processes in motion.

"We aim to identify the earliest changes that take place in the brain following a traumatic brain injury, to see if we could stop them from triggering subsequent changes that could lead on to dementia.

"We are very grateful to Alzheimer's Research UK for this funding and we hope to shed new light on this important link."

Dr Rosa Sancho, head of research at Alzheimer's Research UK, said Cambridge is a leading centre for dementia research and the range of projects the charity is funding in the city reflects the breadth of expertise scientists are bringing to bear to tackle diseases like Alzheimer's.

She said: "We are very pleased to be supporting the innovative research of scientists like Prof Coleman and his team. By unravelling an important risk factor for dementia, his research could help shed new light on the condition and identify new opportunities to help people at risk.

"Dementia isn't a normal part of ageing but the result of physical changes to the brain caused by diseases such as Alzheimer's.

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FUNDRAISER

SLICE OF FUN: Runners are invited to don festive-themed fancy dress for the event in aid of Arthur Rank Hospice

Get set for festive fun run

CALLING all would-be Santas and other Christmas characters – entries for Ely's Festive 5K Fun Run are open

The major event, which takes place on Sunday, November 26, raises money for the Arthur Rank Hospice.

Last year it sold out almost a month ahead of the day, so anyone wanting to take part is advised to sign up soon to avoid disappointment.

Sponsored by Ward Gethin Archer and The Cambridge Building Society, the run has a reputation for spreading festive cheer, with dozens of Santas, reindeer, snowmen and even the odd Christmas present or pudding. The fun starts in Ely Market Square from 11am.

The full route, which is due to be released shortly, will include partial road closures as it winds around the city's historic streets, cathedral and riverside.

Participants can expect all the usual frills with a jolly appearance from Santa, and mince pies to enjoy from Archer House. Ely Markets is kindly allowing the use of the market square for the festivities.

Senior events officer Tasha Hills said: "Ely Festive 5K returns for another year, and has seen a flurry of registrations. This event is always a highlight in our calendar and we can't wait to see the outfits we've heard about come to life, with promises of snowmen, elves, and the classic Christmas onesie.

"The popularity of the event grows every year, with teams committing to joining forces in the hope that they will win the fastest team entry. As always, the community's support is essential and we would be delighted to also hear from local businesses and organisations willing to lend their help and maybe even volunteers to help marshal the fun run."

More than £63,000 has been raised by Ely Festive 5k since it started in 2010, through registration fees and sponsorship.

Entry to the family and pushchair-friendly event costs £12.50 for adults and £8 for children under 16. On-the-day registration, if there are places available, will cost £15 for adults.

Registration closes on reaching 650 participants or at 1pm on Friday, November 24.

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CAMBRIDGE news plus for every reader

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See website for terms and conditions. Offer valid for the first 100 voucher holders until Friday 27 October 2017

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Property & living news

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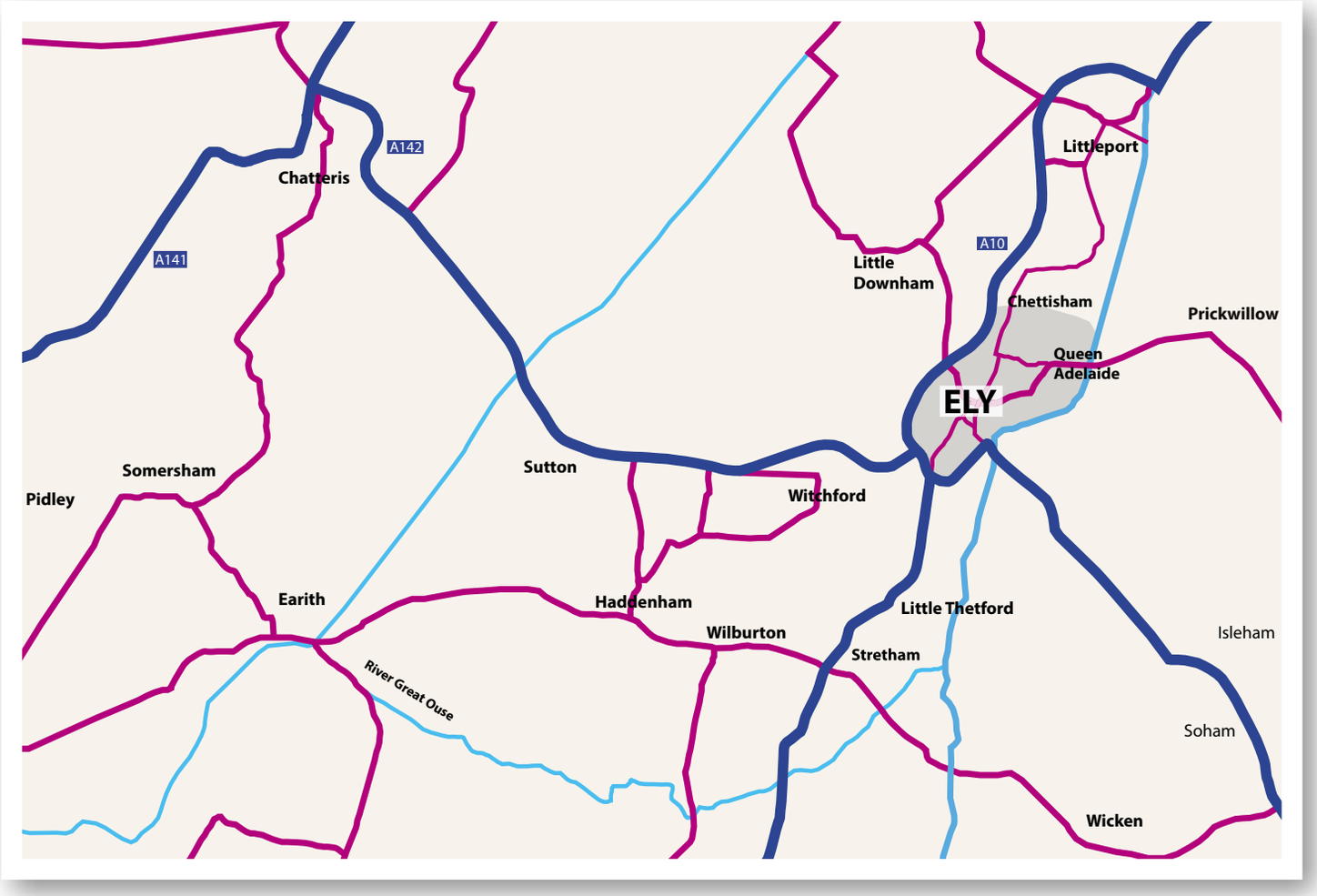

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Cover property – Wilburton: £550,000

MAYLAND, a detached family residence in High Street, Wilburton, is now available to own at a guide price of £550,000.

On the ground floor, the entrance hall leads through to a lounge, a family room, shower room and an open plan kitchen/dining room with integral dishwasher. A conservatory opening to the rear garden completes ground floor features.

Upstairs, there is a total of four bedrooms, as well as a bathroom featuring a panelled bath with shower above.

Outside, there is a spacious gravelled driveway and single garage to the front, while the rear garden is enclosed and laid to lawn, with a variety of plants, shrubs and trees.

Viewing is by arrangement through Cheffins on (01353) 654900.

Ely: £625,000

THIS detached single storey residence in Houghton Gardens, Ely, is now available to own at a guide price of £625,000.

The entrance hall of the property opens on to a dual aspect lounge with sliding patio doors to the front and rear. This room is adjacent to the dining area, as well as the kitchen, which contains appliances including a built-in single oven and a microwave.

The property has four bedrooms in total, one of which contains an en suite, while interior accommodation is completed by a family bathroom and a separate cloakroom. Outside, there is a detached double garage and a landscaped rear garden laid to lawn with large terraced area.

Viewing is by arrangement with Pocock & Shaw on (01353) 668091.

Ely: £1,500pcm

THIS modernised Coach House conversion in Chantry Lane, Ely, is now available to rent for £1,500pcm.

Accommodation inside this Grade II listed property comprises a modernised kitchen with new range cooker, lounge with rear garden access, bathroom with separate shower and bath and three ground floor bedrooms.

On the first floor, you'll find the fourth bedroom, which contains an en suite. Outside, the property benefits from off street parking.

Viewing is by prior arrangement with Keeleys on (01353) 663036.

Trinity Mirror Regionals

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SOHAM

A stunning Grade II listed family home which has been thoughtfully and beautifully restored to its original form enjoying a wealth of character and period features including two large inglenook fireplaces, original beams, exposed floorboards and extending to over 2,817sqft.

5
3
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WICKEN £750 pcm

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ELY £1,200 pcm

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LITTLEPORT £860 pcm

EPC band D (61) Refurbished 3 bedroom semi-detached bungalow. Kitchen/ dining room with gas hob & electric double oven, washing machine & fridge. Master bedroom with en-suite. Rear garden & off road private parking.

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EPC band C (69) A nearly new modern 2nd floor flat situated in the city centre & with views over Ely cathedral. Open plan kitchen/ lounge, with integrated electric hob, electric oven, fridge/freezer, slim dishwasher & washer dryer.

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Soham £265,000

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Soham £329,995

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Soham £325,000

A detached three bedroom bungalow set within this sought after location close to the centre of the town. Chain Free. EPC rating TBC

Soham £725 pcm

A two bedroom semi detached house with gas radiator heating and garage. No Smokers, No housing benefit. Available mid October. Tenant application fees apply.

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Superb three/four bedroom extended detached family home situated in a popular location of this sought after village. Beautifully landscaped gardens. Viewing highly recommended. EPC rating D.

Soham £190,000

Recently modernised two bedroom mid terrace house with gas central heating and off road parking. EPC rating TBC. NO ONWARD CHAIN.

Soham £299,000

Three bedroom detached house with potential to extend (STP) Corner plot , Ample off road parking. EPC rating D.

Soham £380,000

A delightful and beautifully presented three / four bedroom detached bungalow set within this private location close to the centre of the town and amenities. Viewing recommended. EPC tbc.

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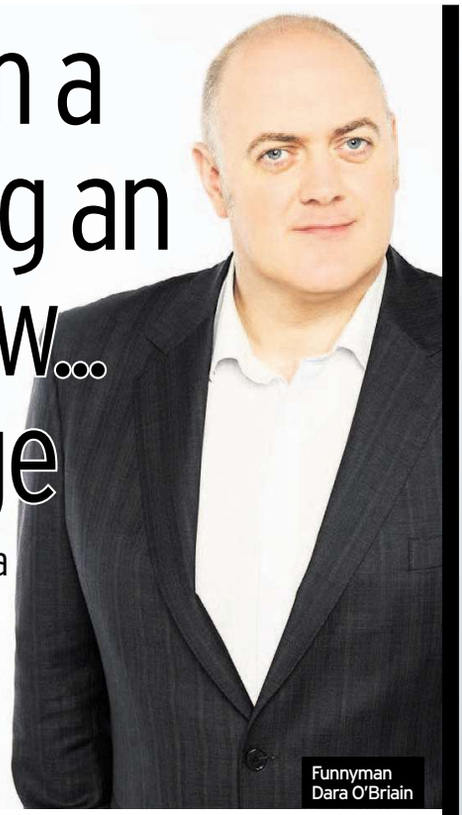
BOOKSHELF

I went straight from a kids' book to writing an adult stand-up show... that's a gear change

As TV presenter and comedian Dara O'Briain launches his first book for children, he talks to **HANNAH STEPHENSON** about his fascination with space, and reveals why he chose comedy as a career



Funnyman Dara O'Briain

DARA O'BRIAIN loves the unusual, the quirky, the absurd – and this is clearly demonstrated in his first children's book, Beyond The Sky, about the weird and wonderful world of space.

Unlike other comedians who have written books for children – David Walliams, Russell Brand, Julian Clary and Adrian Edmondson spring to mind – Dara has followed a different course, amusing nine- to 12-year-olds and curious adults with this dip-in treat of fabulous facts which should have the kids – and adults – laughing out loud.

Did you know, for instance, that the European country astronauts always recognised at night was Belgium because it had a law that every road must be lit at night?

Or that Russian astronauts used to urinate on their transfer bus tyres before boarding their rockets?

These, and a host of other interesting facts about space, planets, astronauts and the stars, are featured in the book.

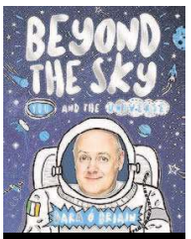
Dara, 45, who is currently writing material for a forthcoming mammoth stand-up tour, says he didn't try the space material out on his own kids.

"I never even thought of doing it for the same reason I don't try out new material on my wife," he says.

"As a comedy performer you don't try out your jokes on the person nearest to you, because it wears them down and puts tension in the house."

The book may at first sight seem a lighthearted look at space, but the fast-talking Irishman is a heavyweight when it comes to science. He studied mathematical physics at University College Dublin and yet gave up the chance of an academic career for stand-up comedy, which then expanded into TV presenting, hosting topical panel shows like Mock The Week as well as The Apprentice spin-off show, You're Fired.

So, why didn't he choose a scientific career?



Dara's new kids' book

"It was the sheer thrill of performance. It turned out, to my surprise, that I was a trouper, I wanted to be in front of an audience, which was a major surprise to me, because I wasn't a class clown or anything.

"I stood in front of an audience at university doing debating and the laughs just created a surge inside.

"Suddenly the dialogue felt good and created a rush. I still feel that now, but it takes more effort – three to six months of writing a two-hour show, but it's a more substantial kind of a feeling now.

"I still get fidgety sitting in a theatre, and think I'd rather be in front of this crowd than in this crowd. That's a performer's thing."

In the six-month gap between tours, he admits he becomes restless.

"I'm happy to portray this as an appalling need for validation. I haven't been told 'I love you' by strangers in a while, so I have to get out in front of a crowd."

Yet he still gets nervous before a show.

Dara thumbs through Beyond The Sky

"You write the stuff when you are nervous and your brain goes into a different mode of flinging ideas out, so a lot of the show is predominantly written in previews, where you are standing in front of an audience with a half-formed idea.

"There's no risk when you're sitting in a room with a piece of paper. But you have to stand in front of an audience at a gig with that piece of paper and an audience will quickly tell you if it's funny or not.

"It's a strange process driven by failure and fear, and your brain panicking and delivering something funnier in the moment.

"But you do get better at writing it, and develop a skill for it, like any writer."

He may be reaching out to youngsters with this book, but he's given talks on stargazing at schools, including his own children's school, so he's fairly familiar with his audience.

Switching from writing for children to writing for adults wasn't too arduous, he reflects.

"I went straight from the book to writing a grown-up stand-up show.

"That's a gear change. But when you start gigging, you have time to do other things – and I was a kids' TV presenter for a couple of years.

"I used to do the live kids' programme at 5pm on RTE and then hopped on a train to Cork to host a comedy club. Your brain switches from one to the other."

The stand-up tour material is getting there, slowly, he says, and will feature Brexit – although he's steering clear of US President Donald Trump and North Korea.

"When you're writing a stand-up show, you're writing it for a two-year tour. The same show will finish in Oslo in 2019 or in Melbourne in 2020. You can't do this week's Trump story. The subjects have to be strong enough to withstand being told 150 times.

"Jokes which are funny the first 60 times may become boring by the 61st time. It's amazing how much stuff you shed over the course of a tour. You expand on material and find things within it which are different.

"What might have once been a one-line observation becomes a longer piece with a jumping-off point in it."

Dara with Robot Wars co-host Angela Scanlon

He's hoping to do another series of BBC2's Stargazing next year and is hosting another Robot Wars, but his The Apprentice: You're Fired! days – he left the show in 2014 – are definitely behind him.

"I did five years and I'm very happy to hand it over to someone else. It was a fun show to do, but you can interview enough people in shiny suits who want to be on The Apprentice, and I think I had my fill with 84 of them."

■ Beyond The Sky by Dara O'Briain is published by Scholastic, priced £12.99.

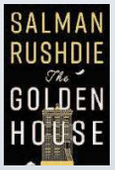
LATEST TITLES

THE GOLDEN HOUSE by Salman Rushdie, Jonathan Cape, £18.99 (ebook £9.99)

★★★★★

THE high life of Manhattan, art and fashion, sibling quarrels, an unexpected metamorphosis, the arrival of a beautiful woman, betrayal and murder are all promised in Salman Rushdie's latest work – a searing examination of modern America and the world around it since 2008.

But as fans know, the path to discovering these episodes is entwined with mystery, deception, and magic realism.



Beginning with the arrival in New York of the mysterious Nero Golden, a fiendishly rich real estate mogul, the story follows the family's Manhattan life, told through the eyes of Rene, an aspiring film-maker living on the same block. Rushdie captures the devilish mood of post-crash greed, political upheaval, and the rejection of the cosmopolitan, liberal west.

NON-FICTION

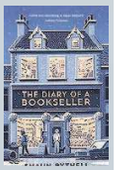
THE DIARY OF A BOOKSELLER

by Shaun Bythell, Profile Books, £14.99. Available September 28

★★★★★

KEEN second-hand bookshop browsers may already be aware of The Book Shop in Wigtown, Scotland, as it has a thriving social media presence.

But readers who have never heard of its owner Shaun Bythell, should get just as much enjoyment from this Diary, which runs for a full year from February 5, 2014.



Prefacing each chapter with an extract from George Orwell's Bookshop Memories from 1936, helps Bythell draw amusing similarities between the profession then and now.

The book is peopled with fascinating characters: from Nicky, his unruly, Morrisons-skip-raiding, sort-of-deputy; to Mr Deacon, still ordering books from a shop rather than Amazon; to festival-organising friend Eliot.

It's a sarcastic reminder of small business struggles, the importance of community and the frustration of dealing with customers.

BOOKS CHART

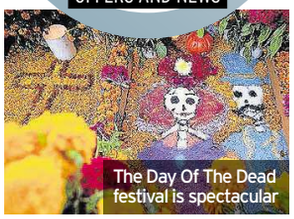
1. 5 Ingredients - Quick & Easy Food: Jamie Oliver
2. Autumn: Ali Smith
3. A Legacy of Spies: John le Carré
4. Pax: Sara Pennypacker
5. The Hidden Life of Trees: Peter Wohlleben
6. Cartes Postales from Greece: Victoria Hislop
7. The Break: Marian Keyes
8. It: Stephen King
9. Birdcage Walk: Helen Dunmore
10. Career of Evil: Robert Galbraith

CHART COURTESY OF WATERSTONES

GETAWAY

TRAVEL NEWS

LATEST TRAVEL ADVICE, OFFERS AND NEWS



The Day Of The Dead festival is spectacular

DEAD GOOD FUN IN MEXICO

NOVEMBER 2 sees the famous Day of the Dead festival in Mexico, and new travel company Insider Places is offering five-day trips to join in the celebrations for less than £400 per person.

The itinerary, put together by experts on the ground in Mexico, includes guided tours of the town of Zocalo, dramatic theatre performances in picturesque Xochimilco, the ruined city of Teotihuacan, and San Andrés Mixquic – which hosts the country's biggest Day of the Dead celebrations.

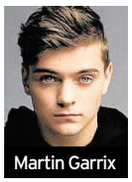
Four nights' B&B in three-star hotels, all tours and internal transfers costs from £356 per person.

International flights are extra. Visit insiderplaces.com for more details.

FANCY A DANCE IN AMSTERDAM?

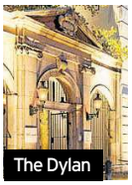
MUSIC fans heading to the Netherlands for the famous **Amsterdam Dance Event** (October 18-23), will be well catered for at **The Dylan**, (dylan-amsterdam.com).

The stylish five-star hotel has a three-night package starting from £1,227, which includes a VIP ticket to DJ Martin Garrix's show, three nights accommodation and breakfast served until noon each day.



Martin Garrix

The annual event is one of the biggest club festivals in the world with the likes of David Guetta, Nicky Romero, Hardwell, Armin Van Buuren and more playing at venues all over Amsterdam.



The Dylan

The Dylan is located in the heart of the Dutch capital, housed in a 17th-century landmark building on the Keizersgracht, one of Amsterdam's most famous canals, close to the chic Nine Streets shopping area.

To book contact reservations @dylanamsterdam.com or call +31 20 530 2010. The package does not include 5% city tax, based on two sharing a double room.

SUSAN LEE finds fun and fantasy are not the only things on the menu at Walt Disney World in Florida

BE OUR GUEST

The Beast welcomes you to his castle as Disney works its magic to make meals into fairytale spectacles

IT must have been the spoon full of sugar I'd put in my tea because when I looked up I was taking breakfast with Mary Poppins.

But then I was in Walt Disney World in Florida, a place where dreams come true. Judging by the look on the faces of my fellow diners as we tucked into our meal alongside Winnie the Pooh, Donald Duck and Miss Poppins, I'd say objective achieved.

That morning at the Cape May Cafe in Disney's Beach Club Resort set the standard, in terms of food and fun, for what was to come over the next few days.

I'd been to Disney before but this time I was there to find out more about the dining offer across the parks and hotels.

To be honest, I'd heard about the Disney Dining Plan but never really understood it. After all, there are loads of places to eat on every park so why bother worrying about it before you go?

Part of the answer came later that day in the Magic Kingdom where, after a morning riding The Seven Dwarves Mine Train, battling the ghosts in the Haunted Mansion and taking endless pictures outside the iconic castle, it was time for lunch at Be Our Guest.

We're in Beauty and the Beast territory here with the restaurant designed to recreate the Beast's castle. It's jaw-droppingly good and the food simple and plentiful. It's quick service at lunch but incredibly popular so, if you want your prince or princess to experience it, best book as soon as reservations are open – 180 days before your hoiliday starts.

No visit to the Magic Kingdom would be complete without witnessing its night-time show of fireworks and projections played out against the backdrop of the castle.

Happily Ever After is new this year, an interweaving of stories, clips and music. It's also lump-in-throat good.

Being a journalist I asked how much the fireworks cost. I was told, in true Disney style, you can't put a price on happiness.

Neither can you put a price on a great lunch after a hard morning enjoying yourself Soarin' Around the World at Epcot.

It's a well-established ride that's had an impressive reboot, a multi-passenger flight simulator which takes you on a thrilling aerial tour of the globe.

Back on firm ground, our party stopped off in Japan for something to eat in the guise of Teppan Edo. Here, food was prepared traditionally just inches away from diners on a tableside grill, our chef bringing drama and excitement courtesy of some sharp knives and sharper banter.

I'm not hugely familiar with Japanese food but this was spectacular. Little wonder some of the best Japanese chefs in the world work here but, again, demand is high and it's worth checking out the menu in advance to know what you're spending – another advantage to being on the Disney Dining plan.

I'm not a big fan of big drops on rides, so what possessed me to go

NEED TO KNOW

- A 14-night stay at **Disney's Grand Floridian Resort & Spa**, including 14-Day Ultimate park tickets with free Memory Maker and free Dining Plan, starts from £2,096 per adult on the basis of two adults and two children (aged 9 and under) sharing a garden view room.
- ALL prices are based on value season (September 6 – December 20, 2018) and include the **Attraction Tickets Direct** special launch offer of up to £100 discount per booking. ATD is now selling hotel, ticket and dining packages to Walt Disney World in Florida.
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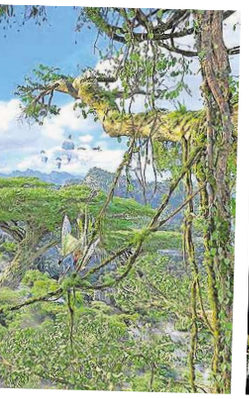

Left to right: A scene from Avatar: Flight of Passage, the 'Nighttime Extravaganza and the Be Our Guest Restaurant

on the Twilight Zone Tower of Terror at Disney's Hollywood Studios I'll never know.

It's 60m high. It's in the dark. And you drop like a stone – again and again. As memories go, it's one I'll take with me to my grave which, at one point, I thought might come sooner rather than later.

My stomach had settled just enough to enjoy dinner that evening at The Hollywood Brown Derby, a place awash with classic movie decor and serving staff who knew the menu inside out and were happy to chop and change dishes on request.

If the hurly-burly of the parks gets too much I'd recommend a day at Typhoon Lagoon. The water park boasts some serious thrill rides – the new Miss Adventure Falls isn't to be missed – but bobbing around on the Lazy River ticked all the boxes for me.

Plus, you can hire a private cabana, which comes complete with a service attendant who will deliver drinks and food to your personal piece of shade.

If shopping is your thing check out Disney Springs. The massive outdoor complex combines retail heaven with great bars, restaurants and entertainment.

DISNEY DINING PLAN OFFER

YOU can take advantage of the Disney Dining Plan for free if you opt for a Disney Moderate, Deluxe, or Deluxe Villa Resort Hotel and Ticket package for a minimum of five nights, if you book before November 6, 2017.

The usual cost is £699 per person based on a two-week stay. The plan offers the opportunity to budget for meals at up to 100 different dining venues.

Your meal entitlements are loaded onto your Magic Band which you then touch at a Magic Point when making a purchase.

We tried The Boathouse, a waterfront steak and seafood place with great wines (make sure you take ID) and a great atmosphere.

All the eateries here come under the Disney Dining Plan so it's straightforward enough to book where and when you want to eat while keeping abreast of your 'credits' – that's the system used in the plan to help you keep track as each eaterie attracts a certain number of credits depending on what it offers.

You can 'save' credits too – so if you fancy a top end restaurant one night you can save them up day to day. Just adjust your dining choice accordingly.

Ideal for budgeting your holiday money in advance.

This year has seen a number of new rides and experiences introduced across Disney, but none more eagerly anticipated than Pandora – The World of Avatar.

A brand new 'land' created within the Animal Kingdom, the centrepiece is Flight of Passage, an augmented reality flight simulator.

This is as thrilling an experience as you'll get at Disney, soaring over oceans, across plains and mountains and through forests.

It is utterly beautiful and, for my money, now the gold standard in theme park rides.

Earlier, we'd eaten at Boma – Flavours of Africa at the Animal Kingdom Lodge

Disney hotels have excellent food options from buffet service to high end dining. Indeed, I'll forever be grateful to the waitress at The Grand Floridian, my base for this trip, who recommended the halibut with clams – it sorted my jet-lag out nicely.

Boma, though, was one of my favourites and made for a varied and interesting breakfast. Satu'lil Canteen meanwhile in The World of Avatar offered quick, efficient service and some great salads – perfect to load up on ahead of the park's new after dark entertainment, Rivers of Light.

The show combines live performance, floating set pieces, music and water. It was the perfect end to a trip which had made me wiser about the Dining Plan and the diversity and value it offers as well as reminding me just how special a Disney holiday can be.

Mind you, I was also returning slightly heavier than when I left thanks to the fantastic food I'd tried.

Time to cut out that spoonful of sugar. Sorry Mary.

Wheels

ROAD TEST

DS 5 Performance Line

YOUNG upstarts often have something to teach us and to learn, and that's true of the DS 5.

The brand is just over five years old and came about by the desire of parent PSA to have a range which rekindles the chic of the first DS launched in 1955 as one of the Citroen luxury models.

The DS 5, and soon-to-show DS 7 face some very serious, longer established players. It is not possible to say if the DS 7 will pull it off, but for now the DS 5 is lacking and off the pace.

Styling is always love it or leave it in the eyes of buyers but in the case of the mid-range DS 5 Performance Line we have been driving it's a case of style over sporting substance as well.

The sweeping roofline over the four-door coupe-styled body looks like it will conceal occupants and it does.

The high waistline and deep pillars to the windows create blindspots all round when driving and parking and you rely on sensors and cameras more than you should have to.

The eight-strong DS 5 series comprises three trim levels – Elegance, Performance and Prestige – and a choice of 120, 150 or 180hp advanced diesel engine as well as a 165 petrol with six-speed manual or automatic boxes.

The over-reliance on diesels with their bad press, fuel and tax penalties may be hindering sales of DS 5.

But the performance and economy of our 180 BlueHDi with its clever smooth six-speed auto/manual box was very good from our overall consumption figure and we achieved an average close to 50mpg.

It has respectable but not rapid acceleration and cruises very easily at the legal limit on motorways with a maximum approaching 140mph.

The powertrain was smooth and quiet even when pushed and the brakes were up to keeping it all tied down if required but the steering was a bit of a loose end with hardly any feedback and a big turning circle.

For its faults the DS 5 still has potential to be a good big car if the engineers can sort that suspension and steering, and bring it anywhere near where it should be to take on class rivals.

This is one famous 5 where the story should continue.

factfile

Price: £34,050
Engine: 1,997cc turbo diesel
Transmission: 6-speed auto
Top speed: 137mph
0-62mph: 9.9 seconds
Economy: 65.7mpg combined
Emissions: 117g/km

Wheels

Big Mondeo price cuts are aimed at business drivers

FORD is slashing prices of the Mondeo and is reducing the number of trim levels available from seven to five.

As of November, the Mondeo will be available from £19,445 – a cut of £2,500.

Range topping Vignale models are being reduced by £3,000 and now start from £27,545.

Ford says that more than 85 per cent of Mondeos are driven by professionals as a company or lease car, meaning that they pay a "benefit in kind" tax based on the vehicle's on the road price.

To minimise tax liability, the OTR prices of the Mondeo are being reduced by £3,000 on Vignale, £2,500 on Zetec and ST-Line Editions and £2,000 on Titanium Edition.

The cuts translate into savings of up to £720 over three years on a Mondeo ST-Line Edition 2.0 TDCi 150ps, for a 40 per cent tax payer plus £300 on the employer's fleet National Insurance costs.

Lease monthly payments for the Titanium Edition 2.0 TDCi 150ps five door are maintained at £258 over three years.

All five models in the new Mondeo range have navigation with an eight-inch touchscreen, DAB radios, autonomous braking to mitigate or avoid low-speed collisions at under 31mph, front/rear parking sensors and cruise control with speed limiter as standard.

ST-Line models add extra front, rear and side body styling, lowered sports suspension, start button and darkened headliner.

Privacy glass and 19-inch alloys are added on the new ST-Line Edition grade.

Owen Gregory, Ford of Britain fleet director, said: "We know Mondeo customers want their cars to stand out.

"This has propelled Mondeo drivers from core series to distinctly sporty and luxury-looking models.

Mr Gregory said: "Making this easier and more affordable takes Mondeo into 2018 in style."

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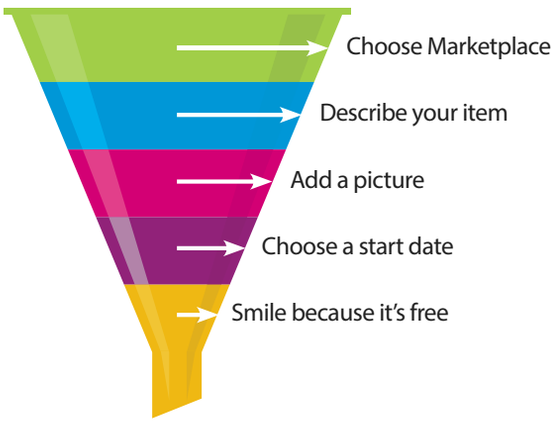

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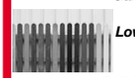

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Public Notices

CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

NOTICE is given that Cambridgeshire County Council has made the following Orders pursuant to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended by the Road Traffic (Temporary Restrictions) Act 1991, the effect of which:

Footpath 2, Footpath 23, Footpath 24, Ely, Footpath 2, Soham and Footpath 6, Little Thetford
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF USE)
ORDER 2017/610

Is to stop any pedestrian from proceeding along Footpath 2, Footpath 23, Footpath 24, Ely, Footpath 2, Soham and Footpath 6, Little Thetford as lies between the A142 and Byway 40, Ely; the A142 and Footpath 16, Little Thetford; and the A142 and Footpath 4A, Soham respectively.

The alternative route for pedestrians will be as signed as and when available.

The Order is made to facilitate Ely Bypass construction works which are being carried out on or near this highway and it will come into operation on 5 October 2017 and continue until these works have finished or on the 22 December 2017 whichever is the earlier.

It is anticipated that these works will be carried out between 5 October 2017 and 22 December 2017.

Bohemond Street, Ely
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC)
ORDER 2017/622

Is to stop any vehicle from proceeding along Bohemond Street, Ely as lies between the junction with New Barns Road and property number 17.

The alternative route for vehicles is via New Barns Road – Bohemond Street and vice versa.

The Order is made to facilitate scaffolding erection works which are being carried out on or near this highway and it will come into operation on 23 October 2017 and continue until these works have finished or on the 22 April 2018 whichever is the earlier.

It is anticipated that these works will be carried out between 23 October and 27 October 2017.

Hundred Foot Bank, Little Downham
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC)
ORDER 2017/656

Is to stop any vehicle from proceeding along Hundred Foot Bank, Little Downham as lies between points 20m either side of the railway level crossing situated there as measured from its gates or barriers.

The alternative route for vehicles is via B1411 – A1101 – A10 – B1411 and vice versa.

The Order is made to facilitate essential maintenance works which are being carried out on or near this highway and it will come into operation on 13 November 2017 and continue until these works have finished or on the 12 May 2018 whichever is the earlier.

It is anticipated that these works will be carried out overnight between 09:30hrs to 15:30hrs 13 November 2017.

Bushel Lane, Soham
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC)
ORDER 2017/560

Is to stop any vehicle from proceeding along Bushel Lane, Soham as lies between Queensway and Hall Street.

The alternative route for vehicles is via A142 – Northfield Road – Holmes Lane (C141) – Towns End – Hall Street and vice versa.

The Order is made to facilitate communication pipe repair works which are being carried out on or near this highway and it will come into operation on 2 October 2017 and continue until these works have finished or on the 1 April 2018 whichever is the earlier.

It is anticipated that these works will be carried out between 2 October and 4 October 2017.

Sandys Crescent, Littleport
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC)
ORDER 2017/576

Is to stop any vehicle from proceeding along Sandys Crescent, Littleport as lies between numbers 26 and 30.

The alternative route for vehicles is via Sandys Crescent – Peacock Way and vice versa.

The Order is made to facilitate water connection works which are being carried out on or near this highway and it will come into operation on 16 October 2017 and continue until these works have finished or on the 15 April 2018 whichever is the earlier.

It is anticipated that these works will be carried out between 16 October and 18 October 2017.

Long North Fen Drove, Sutton
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC)
ORDER 2017/540

Is to stop any vehicle from proceeding along Long North Fen Drove, Sutton as lies between North Farm and The Gault.

The alternative route for vehicles is via Long North Fen Drove – Horseley Fen Middle Drove – Stocking Drove, Chatteris – B1050 – High Street, Chatteris – B1098 – A142 – B1381 – Bury Lane, Sutton – The Gault and vice versa.

The Order is made to facilitate carriageway resurfacing works which are being carried out on or near this highway and it will come into operation on 2 October 2017 and continue until these works have finished or on the 1 October 2018 whichever is the earlier.

It is anticipated that these works will be carried out between 2 October and 6 October 2017.

Lynn Road (A10), Littleport
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC)
ORDER 2017/574

Is to stop any vehicle from proceeding along Lynn Road (A10), Littleport as lies between points 20m either side of the railway level crossing situated there as measured from its gates or barriers.

The alternative route for vehicles is via A10 – A1122 – A1101 – A47 – A141 – A142 – A10 and vice versa.

The Order is made to facilitate essential maintenance works which are being carried out on or near this highway and it will come into operation on 1 October 2017 and continue until these works have finished or on the 31 March 2018 whichever is the earlier.

It is anticipated that these works will be carried out overnight between 01:15hrs and 13:15hrs 1 October 2017.

Station Road, Ely
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC)
ORDER 2017/554

Is to stop any vehicle from proceeding along Station Road, Ely as lies between points 20m either side of the railway level crossing situated there as measured from its gates or barriers.

The alternative route for vehicles is via A142 – A10 – A1123 – A142 and vice versa.

The Order is made to facilitate essential maintenance works which are being carried out on or near this highway and it will come into operation on 7 October 2017 and continue until these works have finished or on the 6 April 2018 whichever is the earlier.

It is anticipated that these works will be carried out overnight between 23:59hrs 7 October and 08:30hrs 8 October 2017.

Barway Road, Soham
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC)
ORDER 2017/603

Is to stop any vehicle from proceeding along Barway Road, Soham as lies between points 20m either side of the railway level crossing situated there as measured from its gates or barriers.

The Order is made to facilitate essential maintenance works which are being carried out on or near this highway and it will come into operation on 15 October 2017 and continue until these works have finished or on the 14 April 2018 whichever is the earlier.

It is anticipated that these works will be carried out overnight between 21:40hrs 15 October and 04:40hrs 16 October 2017.

Access will be maintained to properties affected by these orders.

The above Orders shall not apply to any persons lawfully engaged in connection with any works for which they are made, any member of the Police Force, Fire and Rescue Service, Ambulance Service, a vehicle being used by Special Forces during the execution of their duties or to any person acting with the permission or upon the direction of a Police Officer in uniform.

Graham Hughes, Executive Director, Economy, Transport and Environment, Shire Hall, Castle Hill, Cambridge CB3 0AP

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Please note that this post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act and a satisfactory DBS will be required.

Further details and an application form are available from the College website at www.girton.cam.ac.uk, by emailing personnel@girton.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 339891. Please quote job reference 269.

Closing date for completed applications: Noon Thursday 12th October 2017.

Interviews will take place for shortlisted candidates during the week beginning Monday, 23 October, 2017.

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Speedway

Fen Tigers hoping No1 rider recovers quickly

MILDENHALL are left sweating on the fitness of ace Connor Mountain after the No1 tore ligaments in his shoulder during their 30-30 draw at Stoke on Saturday.

Mountain and Luke Priest crashed on the third bend of heat five, with Priest being excluded and seeing his season end with a dislocated shoulder.

The KJM/Manchetts Fen Tigers will be hoping Mountain can recover in time for their Knockout Cup semi-final and National Trophy final over the next fortnight.

Jon Armstrong and Jordan Jenkins snatched Mildenhall a draw with a 4-2 in the final race, which turned out to be heat 10 instead of 15, due to the stadium's curfew and a subsequent fixture against Kent.

The pair had also combined three heats earlier for their only other race advantage, this time with Jenkins winning for a 4-2, and there were further race wins for Armstrong, Alex Spooner and a brace from Dan Halsey.

But it was otherwise a similar story for Mildenhall as in recent weeks, with the continued absence of unwell Luke Ruddick proving a big hole, along with a weak tail end.

Stoke – Atkin 8 (3 rides), Davey 7 (3), Dicken 5 (3), Burnett 4+1 (4), Tedham 3+2 (3), Terry-Daley 3+1 (3), Priest 0 (2)

Mildenhall – Armstrong 9 (4), Halsey 8 (3), Jenkins 5+1 (3), Mountain 4 (2), Spooner 3 (5), O'Keefe 1+1 (3)

■ Due to Mountain's injury, captain Armstrong was a late call-up to Sunday's National League Riders' Championship, 20 years after he won the third-tier title, to join Jenkins as Mildenhall's representatives.

The duo performed strongly among top opposition and bagged a brace of wins each, with Jenkins finishing impressively in sixth place on 10 points and Armstrong in ninth on eight points.

Jenkins, who was the youngest competitor, aged 16, saw off Tom Bacon and Alfie Bowtell in his two wins, while Armstrong, the eldest in the field at 43, beat runner-up Matt Williamson and Luke Bowen.

DAVID CRANE

Rugby union

Rampant Ely run amok in second half

FIVE second-half tries secured Ely Tigers an emphatic 60-10 win over Lowestoft in London League Three, Eastern Counties.

The Tigers traded scores with their opponents early on, with both crossing for unconverted tries.

However, two quick tries without response, the first from Matt McCarthy and the second from Stirling Fenton, made it 19-7 before Lowestoft clawed back a try before the break, which would turn out to be their last score of the game.

Joel Scott Paul notched a penalty, however, to send the Tigers in 20-12 up.

In the second half Ely turned on the style, with John Dibb, McCarthy and Fenton all getting their second tries. Nathan Brooks then linked up with Ash Clark to get on the scoreboard, as did Jack Alsop.

Lory Martin rounded off the scoring with a converted try to make it 60-10 at full-time.

Football

Crusaders' new strip

ELY CITY Crusaders Whites under-nines have got their hands on a new kit.

The team will be running out in the strip thanks to sponsors GEM Subsea Ltd.

"When the opportunity came up to sponsor Ely City Crusaders I couldn't turn it down," said GEM Subsea director Craig Finbow.

"Local youth football teams are an integral part of the community and I am just glad to do my small part to help keep that community thriving."

Table tennis

Turecki keeps his singles title

MICHAL Turecki successfully defended his title of singles Handicap Cup champion at Ely Table Tennis Club on Saturday.

Having previously won it at the winter tournament, Turecki's confidence was sky high as he progressed from the group stage with ease.

He was met in the final by another former winner, Fred Laband, but Turecki's consistent precision and aggression was enough to complete the victory in two sets.

In an innovative round-robin doubles tournament, Turecki and Del Rosario won a closely-contested final against Rob Pownall and Simon Braschi.

Andrew Blake was player of the tournament.

Chairman Braschi thanked all players for taking part, as well as the tournament organisers, Karen Byford and Rob Pownall.

Anyone interested in joining the club should contact elytabletennis@gmail.com

Winless spell goes on as City lose at Rovers

Football

ELY City were left winless in four matches following Tuesday night's Thurlow Nunn League defeat at Haverhill Rovers.

A Jordan Palmer double saw Rovers collect a 2-0 Premier Division victory – their first in six matches.

Ely were behind in the second minute and had second-half substitute James Seymour dismissed for a second yellow card on 86 minutes.

On Saturday, Ely came from behind to earn a point with a 3-3 draw at home to Gorleston, who took an early lead but the Robins equalised with an own goal.

The visitors took advantage of some poor defending to go 2-1 up on the half hour but Sam Goodge brought City level again just before half time.

Goodge went close to putting Ely in front in the second half but Gorleston scored a third shortly afterwards to move 3-2 in front.

Ely piled on the pressure and were duly awarded in the 88th minute when Sam Reed scored to make it 3-3.

In the Bostik League, North, **Mildenhall Town** were on the wrong end of a 10-goal thriller against Tilbury at the weekend. Tilbury took the lead after four minutes through Toby Aromolaran and it lasted for the majority of the first half until Josh Curry levelled the scores.

The parity only last two minutes, however, as Bryan Kyungu put the visitors back in front. Again, though, they were pegged back when Shaun Avis scored on 40 minutes to send the teams in level.

That meant there were six goals to be squeezed into the second half and Tilbury wasted no time and were two goals up after six second-half minutes, with Adam Vyse and Emiel Aiken getting the goals.

Craig Calver made it 4-3 but the two-goal advantage was restored by Ryan Melaugh on 62 minutes. Two minutes later it was 6-3 when Aromolaran scored again.

A Gareth Simpson goal for Mildenhall on 90 mintues ensured the thrilling game ended 6-4.

Soham Town Rangers' new signing Jon Kaye could not inspire his side to victory, as they fell 2-0 to Haringey Borough.

Borough were in front after 20 minutes when Jamie O'Donoghue scored and they made it two before the break when the same man got his second from the spot.

And on Tuesday, Soham lost by the same scoreline when they entertained AFC Sudbury, who scored both goals in the first half.

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